

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

COWAN et al.

Serial No.: 09/765,498

Filed: January 18, 2001

Title: ENCODING AND SENSING OF
SYRINGE INFORMATION

Art Unit: 3763

Examiner:

#5A
ARIVERS
3/13/02

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following amendments in this application prior to the examination thereof.

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, lines 10-17, with the following (Once Amended):

In another aspect, the present invention provides an encoder system including at least one source or electromagnetic energy and at least one sensor. The encoder system further includes a syringe encoder as described above. In that regard, the syringe encoder includes a length of material adapted to propagate electromagnetic energy therethrough. The length of material includes at least a first indicator along the length of material that is adapted to interact with at least a portion of the energy being transmitted or propagated through the length of material in a manner that is detectable by the sensor.